Export from IT enabled industry

345. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total export from India of the IT enabled Industry like Medical Transcription, data entries etc., during last three years;

(b) whether Government will consider Information Technology enabled industry at par with IT industry and encourage its growth; and

(c) which are the countries that are interested in the IT enabled Industry?

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) According to information available, export from India of IT Enabled Industry is as below:-

Year	Export (Rs. Crores)
1996-97	250
1997-98	440
1998-99	780

(b) The Government of India recognises IT Enabled services as a key opportunity area for export growth and has been giving priority to this sector at par with the Software services.

(c) Whilst most of the countries are interested in IT enabled services, this sector is presently dominated by the U.S.A., Europe, Japan and Australia.

Labour working in organised and unorganised sectors

†346. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the total number of labourers is 2860 lac in the country, out of which the number of labourers working in the organised sector is 270 lac;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the economic as well as social plight of the labourers working in the unorganised sector is very pitiable; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the details of future plan which has been formulated by Government to improve the plight of this section?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LAL): (a) According to 1991 Census, the labour force comprises of 286 million main workers. In addition, there are 28 million marginal workers who work for less than 6 months (183 days) in a year. The number of workers in organised sector is 27 million.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government is aware that the economic and social condition of these workers needs special attention and have, therefore, enacted a number of labour laws for protection of the interests of labour including unorganised labour. Some of these laws are: the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1979, the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 etc. Workers engaged in iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, limestone, dolomite and mica mines, cine industry and beedi industry are also covered by the various welfare programmes undertaken under the concerned welfare funds. State Governments have also launched insurance and social security schemes covering large number of workers engaged in specific activities like handloom weavers, rikshaw pullers etc. Improvement in quality of employment and condition of work of workers in these unorganised/informal sector has been and continues to be a matter of prime concern for the Government.

The Government are also implementing a number of schemes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA) etc. for the welfare and improvement of the conditions of rural unorganised labourers in the country. A New Programme known as "Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojna" (SGSY) has been launched from April, 1999. This is a holistic programme covering all aspects of self employment such as organisation of the poor into self help groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. With the coming into force of SGSY, the earlier programmes IRDP, TRYSEM, DWCRA are no longer in operation.

It is the endeavour of the Government to augment and continue the existing welfare measures and extend legislative protection to more and more workers in the unorganised sector.